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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Naoya Hasegawa et al. )  
Serial No. To Be Assigned )  
Filing Date: Herewith )  
For: A Magnetic Detecting Element Having )  
Second Antiferromagnetic Layer Overlying )  
Second Free Magnetic Layer Extending in )  
Track Width Direction Beyond Track Width )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 18 of this paper.